

From: Jack Maher
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 11/23/01 11:57am
Subject: Microsoft Antitrust Rulling

Hello,

I am extremely displeased at the ruling in the Microsoft antitrust case. This ruling smacks of a "sell-out" by the Federal government to "Big Business Crony" and a "whitewashing" of their behavior and activities. The ruling will have absolutely no effect on their predatory, monopolistic practices or their continued quest to dominate the Internet.

The penalties suggested are a joke and indeed the suggestion by Microsoft that they "donate one billion dollars worth of hardware and software" to poor and under served schools and children is nothing more than a marketing ploy. Typically, Microsoft will "donate" out of date software and hardware and then take an inflated tax deduction for product that no business would purchase or use. And doubly disturbing, is the fact that by inserting the Windows operating system into these schools, they are just making the schools and the children dependent on Microsoft and their products.

If such a donation is considered, it should be in cash so that the schools can decide what hardware or software they wish to purchase. The schools should be able to purchase from any OEM or vendor and any operating system platform, including but not limited to, Apple Macintosh, Unix, or Linux.

As a small educational, multimedia business, we are typical of Microsoft's victims. Please do not reinforce and continue the destructive, monopolistic behaviors of this behemoth. The petty penalties proposed by this ruling will only encourage Microsoft to continue to search out and destroy competitors. They will not stop until they achieve complete control of the PC industry and the internet.

Respectfully,

John J. Maher, MD
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"The battle is now joined on many fronts. We will not waver, we will not tire, we will not falter and we will not fail. Peace and freedom will prevail." President George W. Bush

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